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STONE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Together with the Report of the

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1972

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STONE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1972

To the Chairman and Members of the Stone Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

A full representation of the health of the district is given in the following pages and below are some features of the Report.

The population for the Urban District in mid 1972 was 10,970 which is an increase of 20 over 1971.

The number of lives births for the year is 171 which is a decrease of 11 over 1971. This gives a live birth rate for the area of 15.6, England and Wales 14.8.

The number of deaths from all causes amounted to 131 - a decrease of 43 from 1971. This gives a death rate for the area of 11.9, England and Wales 12.1. During 1972 8 children in this district died under the age of one year.

It will be seen that the commonest cause of death is heart disease with a total of 45. Cerebrovascular disease (i.e. "strokes) and malignant diseases are next with 21 and 19 respectively.

Motor Accidents: There were 3 fatalities during the year.

Social Security Act, 1966: No action was taken under the Act during the year.

The number of infectious diseases notified during the year amounted to 215 cases.

HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 1972

Councillor M. J. Moulson - Chairman

Councillor D. N. Barker

Councillor J. W. Breeze

Councillor Mrs. G. H. Mercer

Councillor C. J. Deacon

Councillor Mrs. M. L. Kennedy

Councillor L. Lawrenson

Councillor J. W. Barnsley

Councillor G. W. Grattidge

Councillor K. Saunders

Councillor F. B. Jordan

Councillor Mrs. M. D. Alderson,

Councillor Miss M. V. Hill

Councillor L. Binns

Councillor K. Banks

Councillor W.E. Jones

Councillor A. Kelly

Councillor P. J. Randall

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS FOR THE AUTHORITY

Acting Medical Officer of Health

D. H. McFarland, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health

C. Arthur, M.B., B.Ch.

Senior Public Health Inspector
(also Engineer and Surveyor)

A. Ainley

F.F.S., F.R.S.H., Dip. R.I.PH.H., C.S.I.B.
Certified Meat and Food Inspector

Additional Public Health Inspector

M. J. Mawby, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.,
Dip. of Public Health Inspectors Education Board

Clerks

Miss S. M. Hargreaves

Miss G. Bevan

A. GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	1,951
Population (General Registrar)	10,970
Number of inhabited houses and flats	3,791
Population density per house	2.91
Rateable Value	£431,426
Sum represented by a penny rate	£4,200

INDUSTRIES

Boots and Shoes
Brewing
Light industries

Electrical Insulators
Industrial Ceramics

Interchangeable laboratory glassware, Scientific instrumentation and moulded plastics

B. PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Domiciliary Nursing and General Practitionery Services.

District Nurses, Midwifery and Health Visitor services are provided by the County Council under the administration of the Stafford Area Health Committee. Family doctor services are supplied in the Stone Urban District by eight general practitioners.

Hospital Services.

Out-patients and general hospital services are available at Stafford General Infirmary and the North Staffordshire Hospital Centre. Aged and chronic sick cases are accommodated at Trent Hospital, Stone, for treatment and Part III accommodation under the County Council if required; aged and other persons are accommodated at "Roseneath", under the auspices of the Stafford County Welfare Department.

Yarnfield Hospital, which was formerly the infectious diseases hospital for the district, admits convalescent cases from the Stafford hospital and other hospitals in the region.

When required, cases of infectious diseases are admitted to Bucknall Hospital, Stoke on Trent, and Moxley Hospital Birmingham.

School Clinics and Welfare Services.

These are held at the St. Michael's Hall, Stone, and the Community Centre, Walton and administered by the Staffordshire County Council.

Clinics are held at the following times:

Infant Welfare Centre, St. Michael's Hall : Weekly Thursday afternoons,
Walton Community Centre : Weekly Wednesday afternoons,
School Clinic, St. Michael's Hall : Fortnightly Thursday mornings.

Programme of vaccination and immunisation of children and adults against poliomyelitis, whooping cough, tetanus and diphtheria and also smallpox are carried out by local general practitioners in their surgeries.

The Staffordshire County Council also maintain specialised clinics where defects of speech, vision and hearing and allied conditions can be treated when these are referred following school medical examinations, and by General Practitioners, Health Visitors and others.

Health Visiting.

Two full time Health Visitors are employed by the County Council for work in the district. The Health Visitors attend all sessions of school and consultant clinics, following up cases as necessary by visits to the home, and also co-operate with the Public Health Department on cases with housing difficulties.

Tuberculosis Services.

A tuberculosis clinic is held at Stafford General Infirmary, to which patients in the Urban District travel. A tuberculosis Health Visitor is employed by the County Council, operating part-time in the area, visiting in the home where appropriate.

Laboratory Service.

Specimens of milk, water and suspected unsound foods are sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Stafford for chemical and bacteriological exmination.

Ambulance Service.

The ambulance service is provided from Stone Ambulance Station in conjunction with the Stafford Ambulance Station.

Meals on Wheels.

In accordance with the Social Security Act, 1966, the Stone Urban District Council co-operates with the W.R.V.S., and James A. Jobling & Co. Ltd., in operating a meals on wheels services for the aged and infirm. During the year approximately 7,928 meals were delivered by voluntary effort to persons where it was thought that these would be of value. The cost to the recipient is 2½p per meal, the remainder being shared by the Local Authority and the County Council. We are very fortunate in Stone in having meals supplied to us by James A. Jobling & Co. Ltd., at an extremely low cost. Our thanks are also due to the W.R.V.S. in being prepared to distribute them for five days a week which is also very unusual.

C.

GENERAL HEALTH IN THE AREA INCLUDING VITAL STATISTICS

These statistics give in the form of tables details of deaths and births and other various rates which are compared with those for England and Wales.

It should be noted that the local rates are based on a relatively small population and therefore subject to wider fluctuations than where larger populations are involved.

It will be seen that measles were prevailant during the year.

Table No. 1.	Live Births		Still Births		Deaths of infants under 1 yr.		Deaths of infants under 4 weeks		Deaths of infants under 1 week	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Legitimate	91	70	-	-	1	2	1	2	1	2
Illegitimate	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	96	75	-	-	1	2	1	2	1	2

Table No. 2.

Birth and Death Rate.

Comparability Factors : Births 0.96 Deaths 0.80.

	Stone Urban District		England and Wales	
	1972	197	1972	1971
Live births per 1,000 population	15.6(171)	16.6(182)	14.8	16.0
Live births per 1,000 population adjusted	15.0	16.9	-	-
Still births per 1,000 live and still births	-	11(2)	12	12
Death rate per 1,000 population	11.9(131)	14.1(174)	12.1	11.6
Death rate per 1,000 population adjusted	9.5	12.7	-	-
Death rate of infants under 1 yr. of age per 1,000 live births	18(3)	5 (1)	17	18
Death rate of infants under 4 weeks of age per 1,000 live births	18(3)	-	12	12
Death rate of infants under 1 week of age per 1,000 live births	12(2)	-	10	10
Perinatal mortality (deaths of infants under 1 week of age + still births per 1,000 total births)	12(2)	11 (2)	22	22

NOTE: Actual numbers shown in brackets

Table No. 3.

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATHS

	Male	Female	Total 1972	Total 1971
Meningococcal infection	1	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, oesophagus	-	-	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	2	4	3
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	1	2	3	4
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	3	-	3	5
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1	1	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	2	2	-
Malignant neoplasm, prostate	2	-	2	1
Other malignant neoplasms	1	2	3	7
Diabetes mellitus	-	1	1	2
Anaemias	-	-	-	1
Chronic rhuematic heart disease	2	-	2	1
Hypertensive disease	-	3	3	3
Ischaemic heart disease	11	25	36	46
Other forms of heart disease	1	6	7	5
Cerebrovascular disease	8	13	21	27
Other diseases of circulatory system	4	7	11	6
Influenza	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	-	4	4	5
Bronchitis and emphysema	6	1	7	9
Other diseases of the respiratory system	-	-	-	3
Cirrhosis of liver	1	1	2	-
Other diseases of digestive system	1	1	2	-
Other diseases of the genito-urinary system	-	2	2	3
Congenital anomalies	1	1	2	1
Motor vehicle accidents	3	-	3	2
All other accidents	-	2	2	2
All other external causes	-	1	1	-
Leukaemia	1	-	1	4
Other endocrine diseases	-	-	-	1
Mental disorders	-	-	-	1
Other diseases of nervous system	-	-	-	1
Asthma	-	-	-	1
Appendicitis	-	-	-	2
Diseases of muscule-skeletal system	-	-	-	1
Symptoms and ill defined conditions	-	-	-	1
Peptic ulcer	-	1	1	-
Intestinal obstruction of hernia	-	1	1	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1	-
Birth injury, difficult labour etc.	1	1	2	-
	51	80	131	154

Table No. 4.

TUBERCULOSIS				
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
On Register at 31.12.71	5	2	-	-
New cases notified or transferred in during 1972	2	-	-	-
Death during 1972	-	-	-	-
Removed from Register transfer out or recovery during 1972	-	-	-	-
Total remaining on Register at 31.12.72	7	3	-	-

Table No. 5.

Number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register for the District at the end of the last four years

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		
Year	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
1968	11	4	-	1	16
1969	9	4	1	1	15
1970	5	2	1	-	8
1971	5	3	-	-	8
1972	7	3	-	-	10

Table No. 6

INFECTIOUS AND NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

The following table shows the number of infectious and notifiable diseases sent in by Medical Practitioners during the year 1972.

Disease	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	Total 1972	Total 1971
Scarlatina	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	142	64	-	5	211	5
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia, Acute Primary	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	1

Table No. 7

The following table shows the number of actual and suspected cases of infectious diseases reported from schools in the district.

Disease	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	Total 1972	Total 1971
Measles	72	6	-	8	86	-
German Measles	2	-	1	5	8	-
Mumps	4	2	-	5	11	3
Chicken Pox	6	1	1	1	9	1
Shingles	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ringworm	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlatina	-	-	1	-	1	-

REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR ON THE SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

RECORD OF INSPECTIONS

The following table summarises the inspections made during the year for all purposes:

	No. of Inspections	Notices informal	Notices Abated
Dwelling Houses - Repairs	75	12	12
Dwelling Houses - Demolition	11	-	-
Dwelling Houses - Slum Clearance	20	-	-
Improvement Grants	204	-	-
Housing Applications and overcrowding	120	-	-
Tents, vans, sheds etc.	-	-	-
Dangerous structures	5	2	2
Verminous and dirty premises	3	-	-
Drainage and trade effluent	330	-	-
Water supply	5	-	-
Refuse collection and disposal	84	-	-
Keeping of animals	4	-	-
Rodent control	89	-	-
Insect control	52	-	-
Infectious diseases	10	-	-
Noise, odour control	48	1	1
Pet Animals Act,	1	-	-
Factories	22	3	3
Shops Act	10	-	-
Outworkers	-	-	-
Petroleum storage	119	-	-
Smoke abatement and control	41	-	-
Foodshops and Licensed premises	76	6	6
Dairies, Bakehouses	4	-	-
Butchers shops	26	1	1
Cafes, Restaurants, Canteens	10	-	-
Ice cream premises	12	-	-
Food condemnation	11	-	-
Meat inspection	410	-	-
Mobile food vehicles	2	1	1
Hairdressers	10	1	1
Offices, Shops and Rialway Premises Act	132	9	9
Market Stalls	41	-	-
Interviews and appointments	212	-	-
Miscellaneous	269	-	-
	2,468	36	36

1. Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

Details of soil and storm sewage 1966-1972

Year	Soil sewage treated at Disposal Works Gallons	Storm water treated at Sewage Works Gallons	Total Gallons	Rainfall Inches
1966	256,967,700	24,416,380	281,384,080	35.09
1967	213,464,100	14,644,360	228,108,460	31.27
1968	203,166,950	16,098,960	219,265,910	30.51
1969	191,208,650	12,915,010	204,123,660	29.41
1970	100,717,488	474,880	101,192,368	28.76
1971	188,680,400	971,520	189,651,920	28.61
1972	200,251,600	1,071,840	201,323,440	24.78

During 1972 there were 205 rainless days.

Samples of final effluent discharged from the Sewage Disposal Works to the River Trent have been taken by the Trent River Authority and the County Health Department and were generally satisfactory.

Charges for the reception of trade effluent continued to be levied by the Council at 8 premises and during the year a number of samples of trade effluent taken at the various premises indicated in general that the Consent Conditions were being complied with.

2. Drainage.

The detailed supervision of all drainage works has been continued in connection with repairs and improvements to existing systems and also of new work.

3. Pail Closets and Septic Tanks.

There is 1 house with a pail closet emptied weekly, and 34 houses have septic tanks in the area.

4. Water Supply.

The mains water supply for the Urban District is provided by the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board from Redhill Road Reservoir and during the year a satisfactory bacteriological standard has been maintained. 112 samples taken by the Board were satisfactory in all respects, of which 79 were from the Pumping Station and 33 from the supply area.

21 samples were taken for chemical analysis.
5 visits were made to premises in connection with water supply.

New supplies during 1972 - 21 dwellings were connected to the mains. Less complaints were received of discolouration of the water supply than for the year 1971.

5. Refuse Collection.

A regular weekly collection of domestic refuse has been generally maintained despite the increase in the number of properties and corresponding yield of refuse.

Tipping on Site No. 2 at Swynnerton has continued during the year.

Salvage.

The collection and disposal of waste paper, containers and rags has continued. Scrap Iron and other metals are obtained in small quantities and salvaged, but metal containers (cans) are not recovered.

There has been a further reduction in the yield and baling of waste paper and cardboard during the year probably due to the increasing use of plastic and other similar material for wrapping purposes and the fact that fewer of the manual employees appear to be interested in baling paper in their own time for which payment is made.

Salvage Disposal

1st January to 31st December, 1972

Waste Paper	10.007 tonnes	£93.57
Scrap Iron	7 tonnes	£66.50
Rags	1 ton 7 cwt	£18.90

6. HOUSING

A small amount of building was in operation during the year, in which 21 dwellings were completed.

8 applications for Standard Improvement Grants and 16 applications for Discretionary Improvement Grants have been made during the year. All applications were approved.

Number of houses and flats erected during the year :-

	Houses	Flats
(1) By Local Authority	21	Nil
(2) By other Local Authorities	Nil	Nil
(3) By private enterprise	Nil	Nil
	21	Nil

Number of houses owned by the Council on the 31st December, 1972, built under the provisions of the various Housing Acts:-

Erected during the years 1919 - 1940	-	276 (and remaining in the Council's possession)
Erected during the years 1947 - 1971	-	601
Erection during the year 1972	-	21
		898

7. Inspection and Repair of Dwellinghouses.

During the year, 12 informal notices were served for repairs in private houses. The majority of these notices were complied with and the work satisfactorily carried out.

Inspection.

1.	(a)	Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)	75
	(b)	Number of re-inspections made for the above purpose	90
2.		Properties demolished in 1972	11
3.		Number of houses remaining in the 5 - 20 years programme:-	
		Category 2	41
		Category 3	38
			79

Remedy of Defects.

Number of houses repaired, rendered fit or improved in consequence of formal action	-
Number of dwellinghouses repaired, rendered fit or improved in consequence of informal action	21
Category 2 owners supplied with scheduled of repair ...	20
Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit or improvemed in consequence of voluntary action by owner	24

8. Demolition of Dwellinghouses.

Number of houses demolished as a result of formal action	11
Number of houses demolished as a result of informal action	-
Number of houses demolished in default	-
Further statutory Demolition Orders served (property to be demolished in the following year)	12
Number of properties included in Compulsory Purchase Orders	-
Closing Orders made under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957	-

9. Overcrowding and Rehousing.

60 housing units became vacant during the year and these were re-allocated under the points system and to tenants from the Slum Clearance Programme.

10. Moveable Dwellings.

There were no caravans etc., in use in the area during the year.

A local Company hires out canal cruising boats for holiday travel and in addition a number of private pleasure craft make use of the Trent and Mersey Canal during the summer months.

11. Dirty and Verminous Premises.

3 visits were made to dirty houses during the year. Instruction and advice was given to secure their cleansing.

12. Rodent Control.

2 treatments were carried out to the sewer system of the town. Regular treatment of the refuse tip and other surface installations has been carried out.

Details of treatments other than sewers are shown in the following table.

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agri-cultural	All other purposes
Rats				
Major infestations	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Minor infestations	5	31	Nil	Nil
Mice.				
Major infestations	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Minor infestations	Nil	27	Nil	2

13. Pet Animals Act.

One shop licence was renewed for this purpose. No contraventions occurred.

14. Factories.

Number on Register 44

Number of inspections for all purposes 22

It was necessary to serve 3 informal notices during the year and the standard was generally satisfactory.

15. Smoke Abatement.

Continued co-operation by local firms has taken place during the year. Complaints of some fallout from Meaford Power Station in the Stone Rural District area have been investigated with the Rural District Council.

16. Shops Act.

Visits to the shops in the area for late closing have been made.

Inspections of 1 shops in respect of health and comfort provisions were made. A separate Shops Act Report has been submitted to the Council.

17. Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

Returns now indicate there to be 131 premises in the District affected by the Act. Re-inspections under the Act have been maintained throughout the year resulting in 10 informal notices being served and 10 notices being complied with.

During the year the improvement in premises where owners and occupiers have provided facilities for the health and welfare of their staff has been maintained.

During the year one accident was reported which was non-fatal. There were no proceedings for prosecution instituted.

18. Inspections and Supervision of Food Premises.

Meat Inspection.

Regular meat inspection has been maintained in the two licensed slaughterhouses. All animals are inspected as soon as possible after slaughter.

The meat produced from the slaughterhouses is retailed on four private butchers' shops situated within the Urban area. Some meat is also supplied to the adjoining Local Authority areas.

Meat Inspection (Continued).

The remaining butchers' shops receive their meat supplies from outside the district.

Meat and offals found unfit	:	1 ton 2 cwt 26 lbs
Number of animals slaughtered	:	559 cattle, 32 calves, 2,445 sheep, 1,404 pigs.

Tuberculosis.

2 qr. 24 lbs of offal was found to be infected with tuberculosis.

The amount of pig meat and offal affected with tuberculosis shows a slight increase over last year from 0.23% to 0.57%. There have been no cattle affected with tuberculosis during the year.

All condemned meat and offals surrendered from the two slaughterhouses have been removed for disposal in accordance with the Meat (Sterilization) Regulations, 1969.

Details of carcases and offal inspected
and condemned in whole or in part are shown in the following table

PRIVATE SLAUGHTERHOUSES

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed	559	32	2,445	1,404	-
Number inspected	559	32	2,445	1,404	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci :-					
Whole carcases condemned	-	1	2	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	234	5	246	140	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis and Cystercerci	41.86%	18.75%	10.14%	9.97%	-
Tuberculosis only :-					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	8	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	0.57%	-
Cysticercus Bovis :-					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Cysticercus Bovis	0.35%	-	-	-	-

19. Ice Cream.

Number of premises registered for sale and/or manufacture of ice cream at 31st December, 1972 ... 38

Number of the above actually selling ice cream ... 35

2 premises were registered during the year. Samples of ice cream were submitted for bacteriological examination and all were found to be satisfactory.

20. Preserved Food etc.

Number of premises registered for the manufacture of sausages and preserved food 8

1 registration of a premises was cancelled due to it closing down

1 new premise was registered during the year.

21. Milk.

During the year the County Authority have taken the following samples in this area :-

Samples for bacteriological examination 44

1 sample failed the Methylene Blue test.

22. Inspection of Food Handling Premises.

Frequent routine visits have been made to all food premises, with particular regard to food hygiene. 8 notices were served to implement the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations. Most shops selling food of a perishable nature have installed frozen food cabinets (display) etc., and in general a good standard of food hygiene is observed.

23. Inspection of Food (excluding Meat at Slaughterhouses).

The following are the total amounts of food other than meat at slaughterhouses, voluntary surrender of which has been accepted:-

Imported Meat, Canned Meat and Meat Products ... ... 54 lbs

Other Foods ... ... 375 lbs 6 oz